

ROBERT A. HEFNER MANSION
201 Northwest Fourteenth Street
Oklahoma City
Oklahoma
Oklahoma

HALS OK-35
OK-35

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY

ROBERT A. HEFNER MANSION

HALS NO. OK-35

Location: 201 NW 14th, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma.
Lat: 35.48386 Long: -97.51623

Significance: The Hefner Mansion was built in 1917 for Mr. and Mrs. F.L. Mulkey. Ten years later, in 1927, the Robert A. Hefner family moved into the house. Hefner was an oilman, served as an Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice from 1926 to 1932, and was the mayor of Oklahoma City from 1939 to 1947. From 1927 to 1970, the Hefner family resided in the mansion. In 1970, the house was donated to the Oklahoma Heritage Association, an organization dedicated to the preservation of Oklahoma's heritage. The mansion served as the home for the association until 2006, when it was sold to St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Oklahoma City.

History: Originally built for Mr. and Mrs. F.L. Mulkey, the mansion was designed by Albert F. Stewart in the Greek Revival style with an eclectically-styled landscape. In 1927, Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Hefner moved into the mansion. Mr. Hefner served the State of Oklahoma and the City of Oklahoma City in multiple roles. He was elected to a six-year term as a justice on the Supreme Court of Oklahoma in 1926. Later, from 1939-47, he served as the mayor of Oklahoma City. During this time he earned the distinction of being the first Oklahoma City mayor to serve multiple terms. He also was the city attorney (1911-13) and mayor (1919-27) of Ardmore, Oklahoma. In addition, to his public service endeavors, Hefner was involved in Oklahoma's lucrative oil industry.

In 1970, the Hefner family donated their home along with all of its furnishings to the Oklahoma Heritage Association. The association performed minor renovations and preserved the home's historical and architectural integrity. From 1970 through 2006, the Oklahoma Heritage Association called the mansion home. However, in 2006 the Oklahoma Heritage Association moved into their new home in the former Mid-Continent Life Building, which was purchased and renovated with donations made by Edward L. Gaylord and T. Boone Pickens. Neighboring St. Luke's United Methodist Church purchased the mansion from the OHA in 2006.

Sources: Creel, Von R., "Robert Alexander Hefner (1874-1971)," Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture,
<http://digital.library.okstate.edu/encyclopedia/entries/H/HE009.html> (accessed December 14, 2009).

Lambert, Paul, "Oklahoma Heritage Association," Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture,

<http://digital.library.okstate.edu/encyclopedia/entries/O/OK054.html> (accessed December 14, 2009).

Oklahoma Heritage Association History,
<http://www.oklahomaheritage.com/About/History/tabid/64/Default.aspx> (accessed December 14, 2009).

Historian: Steve Eilers, December 14, 2009
3700 West 19th
Stillwater, OK 74074
steve.eilers@okstate.edu

Dr. Charles Leider
Professor and Director of the Landscape Architecture Program
Horticulture and Landscape Architecture Department
360 AG Hall
Stillwater, OK 74078-6027
Office: (405) 744-5420
charles.leider@okstate.edu



View of mansion from street (Steve Eilers, 2009).



View of water fountain (Steve Eilers, 2009).